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Letter To The Editor

Editor
Times-Virginian
Appomattox, Va. 24522

Dear Editor,

It seems that our government has misled the public as to the importance and meaning of the Panama Canal Treaty. In fact, present and past administrations have lied about the legality of our occupancy and misrepresented facts.

The truth is -The United States owns the Canal and the Zone by purchase (just like you own your car or house). This ownership is confirmed by the Treaty of 1904. So, we do have a legal right to be there.

The truth is - Omar Torrijos is a Communist, and, as such, would subjugate Panamanian national interests to Communist international interests. This would be to the obvious disadvantage of the United States.

The truth is - The Panamanian people would not benefit from the Treaty any more than any other peoples have benefited from Communism. The US -controlled zone is a haven running right through Panama and the people would be much worse off if we were to give it up.

The truth is - That the Panama Canal Treaty is, in reality, Communism vs the United States. I hope all your readers see this and make their opinion known to the Congress and President.

Sincerely,
C. Mason Gardner,
State Chairman
American Party in Virginia

Church Plans Watch Night Service December 31st

Rev. R. B. Baber and the Baptist Temple Church on Church Street in Appomattox invites you to a "Watch Night Service" on Saturday night, December 31st, at 7:30 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.

Rev. Poovey from Danville and Rev. Jack Brown from Altavista will be preaching. Special singing will be by the Poovey Family, The Baber Family, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Burrell, Mr. David Stedman, Mrs. Edith Hall and Melody and others.

Don't miss this service!.

FIDELITY AMERICAN BANKSHARES, INC. & CENTRAL NATIONAL CORPORATION TO BECOME COMMONWEALTH BANKS, INC.

Continued From Page 1

making and personal attention that have served our customers so well in the past. Fidelity American Bank NA will continue to trade under its current name," Goode expressed optimism for the proposed merger, stressing that it had his full support.

It was disclosed that the composition of the board of directors of the new company has yet to be determined. However, Saine and Clements did note that the new board will consist of members selected from the two existing boards of directors with a majority chosen from Fidelity American.

The ratification by the boards of the two organizations must be approved by the shareholders of both companies and by governmental authorities. It is expected that this process will be completed by late 1978. If approved, the combined multi-bank holding company would have 123 banking offices with total assets of approximately $1.5 billion.

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THE RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE made a visit to Appomattox on Tuesday, December 20th, and with a quota set for 110 units of blood at this visit, only 77 units were donated. Appomattox County is, at the present time, short of its quota set by the Red Cross but with the visit of the Bloodmobile coming so close the holidays and with the many cases of flu reported we think the visit was quite successful. The next visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile is scheduled for February and we hope to be able to exceed the goal at that visit

Joe Ford Will Perform With Band At Orange Bowl Parade

RADFORD - Joseph Ford of Appomattox, a freshman political science major, will perform with the Radford College Highlander Band in the 44th Annual Orange Bowl Parade in Miami, Fla., on Sat., Dec. 31. The 97-member band will appear on the NBC televised portion of the parade at 8:16 p.m.

A trombonist in the band, Ford is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Ford of Rt. 2.

Under the direction of Dr. Bennett Lentzner, assistant professor of music at Radford, the band will also present a concert at 8 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 30 at the Young Circle Bandshell in Hollywood, Fla.

In authentic Scottish Highlander military dress - McFarland tartan kilts and plaids, 12-button spats, Glen Carrey caps and fur sporrans, the Highlanders have performed in parades and concerts across the country, including the Orange Bowl Parade in 1967; 1975 Gimbel's Thanksgiving Day Parde in Philadelphia, Pa.; 1976 Hudson Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit, Mich.; the country's Bicentennial Celebration in Washington, D.C., and the opening of the Bicentennial Center in Charlottesville.

They will also perform in the inaugural parade in Richmond for Virginia's Gov. John Dalton on Sat., Jan. 14.

POWER MECHANICS RECEIVES DONATED VEHICLE

Continued From Page 1

zone service staffs keep lists of requests for such vehicles. When they become available, schools are notified. Schools are required to truck the vehicles away themselves.

The vehicle was transported to the Appomattox County High School from Norfolk, Va. through the courtesy of Charles T. Moses, Jr., president and owner of Moses Motor Company, Appomattox, Va.

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Mrs. Turner's 6th Grade 4-H CLub

Mrs. Turner's 6th Grade 4-H Club met Dec. 12th, 1977. Our president, Jay Chenault, opened the meeting by electing Ricky Garrison and Tony Chandler to lead us in the pledges.

Recreation leaders, Marie Stitt and Scott Drinkard, led us in a song and game.

Our secretary, Tammy Smith, read the minutes and they were aproved.

We then talked about the Share-the-Fun program which took place Nov. 14 - 16 and Dec. 1, 1977.

Mr. Sweet and Mr. Goodman passed out pine seedling forms.

We talked about - public speaking and we then watched slides on "Opportunites in 4-H."

Our president adjourned the meeting.

Harold Vassar, Reporter

ROCKS

December 25 ... It was a beautiful day here on Sunday. Looks like very cold weather has come in our midst now. No right to complain.

Many are enjoying the blessings of Christmas but so many are sad and lonely.

Mrs. Emma Nash will enter the hospital for surgery this week. A speedy recovery is wished her.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Taylor and Scottie of Davenport, Iowa, arrived on December 16 to spend about 10 days here with Rev. and Mrs. A. M. Taylor.

The Christmas Play was well presented on December 18. The directors and cast worked hard to make it a meaningful presentation.

The pageant by the children of the church on Wednesday night. They did a wonderful job. A large crowd attended and refreshments were served.

A speedy recovery is wished Frank Nash of Pamplin who had surgery at Virginia Baptist Hospital last week.

Mrs. Gladys Anderson has returned home from a few weeks stay in Florida.

A terrible tragedy hit Appomattox on Tuesday night when two teenage girls lost their lives in a car accident. Sympathy goes out to the Rosser family and McQuire family.

The Christmas Day service was great. The Vesper service was held at 4 p.m. with the theme, Joy To The World. This service took the place of training union and the evening service.

Sympathy goes out to Herman Varner family of Pamplin, who lost their son on Saturday.

Rev. A. M. Taylor will bring the morning devotions on the radio each morning at 8:45 a.m. over WTTX.

Watch night service on December 31 will be at 8 p.m. and will go through 12:30 a.m. Hope you plan to be present.

Sorry to hear J. Franklin Vaughan of Appomattox will enter Virginia Baptist Hospital on Monday. Hope he will have a short stay.

Students are home from college to enjoy the Christmas holidays.

The Mildred Collins Sunday School Class had their Christmas dinner on a Friday night recently at Maude's Restaurant at Appomattox.

Tobacco sales will reopen on January 17. Many tobacco growers were stuck in the traffic jams and sales had to be suspended for a week on the market recently.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

NO MORE FOREIGNERS!

Lesson for January 1, 1978

Background Scripture: Ruth 1 through 4
Devotional Reading: Psalms 113

Rev. Althouse

The Book of Ruth is a dangerous book! At least that is the way it was regarded when it first appeared and for a considerable time thereafter. To even the casual reader of the Bible today that may sound preposterous; we all know the Book of Ruth to be an entertaining story of tenderness and devotion. How could anyone regard this story as "dangerous"?

Foreigner from Moab.

In order to understand the significance of Ruth, we have to remember that in the day when it was written there was great concern and disapproval over any marriages between a Jew and a foreigner. Such a marriage, it was thought, weakens the religious solidarity and purity of the people of Israel.

It was a day of arrogant nationalism. All foreigners were regarded with fear and contempt by the people of Israel. It was believed that the salvation of Israel lay in keeping free of any polluting contact with pagan neighbors.

Thus, the Book of Ruth descended upon the people of Israel like a bombshell. The heroine of the book is a foreigner—to be more specific, a Moabitess, an alien people who often were bitter enemies. Not only is Ruth the Moabitess the central character of the book, but she is a model of piety and fidelity held up before all Israeli women. To make matters worse, this foreigner had married two Jewish men, Mahlon, Naomi's son who died in Moab, and Boaz of Bethlehem, a kinsman of Naomi. Because of his wealth and position, Boaz was regarded as something of a "marriage catch." How ironic that a foreigner landed him instead of a local girl of Israel.

A boy named Obed

But the most disturbing thing of all about the Book of Ruth was the assertion that this Moabite foreign woman was to become the great grandmother of King David! The great David, according to this radical book, did not come from a racially-pure lineage, but one in which a foreigner played a prominent part. Readers of this book were doubtless scandalized at this thought.

Ruth was a Moabitess, but she might just as easily have been an Ammonite or Egyptian. The point the writer is making is that in the sight of God there is no such thing as a foreigner or alien. The key is not a person's lineage, but their character. In a sense, Ruth was a better Jewess than many or most of her contemporaries. Her life was pleasing in God's sight.

Last February I stood on the mountainous heights of Moab (now Jordan) and looked across the Dead Sea to Bethlehem. Though thousands of years have passed, I realized that there is still a terrible enmity between the people of Bethlehem and Moab. They are still hostile and regard each other as "foreigners" and "enemies." How long before all peoples take to heart the story of Ruth and learn that in God's sight there are no foreigners at all?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Super Dollar Earnings

Super Dollar Stores, Inc. (OTC), a discount variety chain of 131 stores, headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., reported sales of $7,591,000 for its third quarter ended Nov. 5, 1977, an increase of $937,000, or 12%, over sales of $6,654,000 for the same quarter of last year.

Net income for the third quarter this year was $318,000, or 52c per share, compared to $283,000, or 46c per share, during the same quarter last year. After absorbing the April 1977 after-tax flood loss of $46,000, or 7c per share, net income for the current three quarters amounted to $550,000, or 90c per share, compared with $558,000, or 91c per share last year. Sales increased 21% to $22,748,000.

Leon M. Melvin, its President, said that since Nov. 5th sales have improved markedly relative to last year. He attributed this partly to the Company's first-time, chain-wide Christmas season television promotion.

Melvin said, that barring unforeseen difficulties, the Company will have a record-breaking fourth quarter and fiscal year in both sales and earnings. Last year the Company reported sales of $26,412,000 and earnings of $827,000, or $1.35 per share.

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ASCS Today

By Tom Conrad

Committee Elections - On December 20, the County Convention was held at the ASCS office. The purpose of the convention was to fill a vacancy on the County Committee. As a result of the convention, the following gentlemen will serve on the Appomattox County ASC Committee for 1978:

W. E. Bondurant, Jr. - Chairman
B. C. Massey - Vice -Chairman
W. D. Hunter, Jr. - Regular Member
E. N. Harvey - First Alternate
E. W. Mullins - Second Alternate

The Committeemen and alternates will assume office on January 1, 1978. The Committeemen and alternates as needed will meet at least once a month at the ASCS office for the purpose of the administration of ASCS programs.

Final Set-Aside and Normal Crop Acreage Rules Announced - Final rules for the federal farm programs would permit some grazing on set-aside acreage and would broaden the erosion prevention measures for set-aside land.

The Department of Agriculture is calling for a 20 percent reduction in wheat acreage and a 10 percent conditional set-aside for feed grains. The set-aside program is voluntary. However, farmers who do not participate will be ineligible for federal price support loans, disaster payments and deficiency payments.

We are still looking for about 388 farmers to report their current crop acreages. These reports, plus the history of land use over the past three years, will be used to determine the farmer's normal crop acreage (NCA). To participate in the set-aside program, the farmer agees to "set-aside" or remove from production one acre of ground for every 5 he plants to wheat and one acre for every 10 he plants to corn, sorghum or barley. Thus, a farmer's 1978 plantings equal his NCA minus his set-aside acreage.

Each State ASC committee will determine a continuous six-month grazing period for set-aside land between February 28 and November 1, though the period may vary by county. Farmers may graze animals on set-aside land must be planted to an approved vegetative cover or otherwise protected from wind and water erosion. State ASC committee will also decide which conserving practices besides vegetative cover a farmer may use to prevent erosion on set-aside land.

Va. Youths Win 4-H Congress Trip

Joseph Michael Ford

Five Virginia 4-H'ers have found that fulfilling the 4-H motto, "To Make the Best Better," has earned them 1977 state honors.

The five are Woodrow Thomas Conner, 19, of Kenbridge; Joseph Michael Ford, 18, of Appomattox; Margaret Eunice Mottley, 19, of Burkeville; Patricia Gail Wise, 18, of Dillwyn; and Eva Jean Woofter, 17, of Lawrenceville. All won expense-paid trips to the 56th National 4-H Congress in Chicago Nov. 27 - Dec. 1. They are among some 30 Virginia 4-H'ers named state winners this year by the Cooperative Extension Service.

Ford, a college freshman who plans a career in political science, is state winner in the 4-H leadership program. Reader's Digest sponsored his trip to Chicago.

"I have always had a deep desire to lead and serve," said the Appomattox County boy. "I have always wanted the opportunity to discover and use my talents, and becoming a leader in 4-H has given me such an opportunity."

Ford is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Ford of Appomattox.

DONATES TO RESCUE SQUAD

The Young Hearts Club made a donation last week to the Appomattox County Rescue Squad. Making the donation was Mrs. Helen Gunter, president of the club, and accepting for the Rescue Squad was Ray Noble, Training Officer of the ACRS.

DONATES TO FIREMEN

The Young Hearts Club made a donation last week to the Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department. Freddy Godsey, member of the Fire Department, is shown accepting check from the Young Hearts Club presented by Mrs. Helen Gunter, president of the club.

WILLIAM L. HARVEY NAMED MILITARY POLICEMAN

Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. (AHINC), Dec. 16 - Specialist Four William L. Harvey, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Lathan Harvey, Appomattox, Va., recently was named Military Policeman of the Quarter for the 24th Infantry Division at Hunter Army Airfields, Ga.

He was selected for his soldierly appearance, knowledge and performance of duties and military courtesy.

Spec. Harvey, a senior military policeman with the division, entered the Army in Nov., 1976.

The specialist received an associate degree in law enforcement in 1975 from Central Virginia Community College in Lynchburg.

His wife, Debra, is with him in Georgia.

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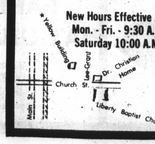

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Hunt's 8 oz. can **Tomato Sauce 5/$1**
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